

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Title of the specification with the following:

~~AIRLINE~~ RESERVATION SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS GUARANTEED
RESERVATIONS FOR A PREFERRED CATEGORY OF SEATING

Please replace the Abstract of the specification with the following:

An ~~airline~~ reservation system that supports guaranteed reservations for a preferred category of seating. The system comprises a method for receiving a request for the preferred category of seating, determining if the preferred category of seating is available, guaranteeing the preferred category of seating, and assigning a ~~passenger~~ consumer to a seat within the guaranteed category of seating. Moreover, the ~~passenger~~ consumer can be reassigned to a different seat within the guaranteed category of seating in order to accommodate an additional seating request. Seating arrangements are finalized at a predetermined time prior to an ~~flight's departure event~~ and ~~passengers~~ consumers are permanently assigned to a seat within their preferred category of seating.